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**CIVIL ENGINEERING**

**DROUGHT CONTINGENCY INSTRUCTION**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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OPR: 436 SPTG/CEV (Mr. Seip)

Certified by: 436 SPTG/CE (Lt Col Willie Dean)

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This instruction establishes base policy and identifies required actions to be taken when a drought warning or drought emergency is declared by the State of Delaware or the DRBC. Section 4.03.D of the Regulations Governing the Allocation of Water promulgated by DNREC requires Dover AFB to develop and implement, as necessary, a Drought Contingency Plan. This Instruction shall act as the Dover AFB Drought Contingency Plan.

**1. Purpose.** As required by Section 4.03.D of the Regulations Governing the Allocation of Water promulgated by DNREC, Dover AFB is required to develop and implement, as necessary, a Drought Contingency Plan.

- 1.1. Outlines actions to be taken in the event of a drought warning or emergency declared by the State of Delaware or the DRBC.
- 1.2. A drought warning may request voluntary compliance with water conservation measures or may implement mandatory restrictions.
- 1.3. A drought emergency requires mandatory compliance with the water conservation. Failure to comply with mandatory requirements can result in legal action by state or local enforcement officers against the offender.

**2. Terms and Definitions:**

- 2.1. Terms and definitions used in this instruction are consistent with those defined in the federal, state, and local environmental regulations.
- 2.2. Some commonly used abbreviations and acronyms are listed below.
  - 2.2.1. CFR Code of Federal Regulations

- 2.2.2. DNREC Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- 2.2.3. DRBC Delaware River Basin Commission
- 2.2.4. ECAMP Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Plan
- 2.2.5. EPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- 2.2.6. EPC Environmental Protection Committee

### **3. Scope:**

- 3.1. This instruction is consistent with and updates the previous Drought Contingency Plan dated August 29, 1986.
- 3.2. This instruction is consistent with and augments the following Civil Engineering Operational Plans:
  - 3.2.1. Dover AFB Leak Detection and Control Plan.
  - 3.2.2. Dover AFB Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan

### **4. Policy:**

- 4.1. Dover AFB policy is to comply with Federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to permitting, managing, and treating water. The above requirements take precedence if they conflict with this instruction.
- 4.2. Develop consistent base-wide water conservation measures at all times, not only during drought conditions.
- 4.3. Consider the long-term risk to the human and natural environment when making water management decisions to include environmental impact analysis and life cycle management costs.
- 4.4. Implement the actions set forth in Sections 5 and 6 when under a drought warning or a drought emergency.

### **5. Organizational Responsibilities for a Drought Warning:**

- 5.1. 436 AW/CC
  - 5.1.1. Acts as EPC chairperson or appoints acting chairperson.
  - 5.1.2. Provides direction through EPC to develop and maintain plans and regulations with specific guidelines for base environmental concerns.
- 5.2. 436 SPTG/CE
  - 5.2.1. Through 436 SPTG/CEV
    - 5.2.1.1. Establishes and publishes technical policy regarding water conservation measures.
    - 5.2.1.2. Prepares all correspondence to DNREC and EPA regarding water conservation measures.
    - 5.2.1.3. Prepares annual water summary and leak detection and control plan reports for submittal to DNREC.

## 5.2.2. Through 436 SPTG/CEO

5.2.2.1. Prohibits street washing.

5.2.2.2. Install flow constrictors on hose bibs at vehicle wash areas at/near Building 480, auto hobby shop, buildings 635, 636, 706, and 914.

5.2.2.3. Eliminate flushing of sewers or fire hydrants except in the interest of public health.

5.2.2.4. Restrict the watering of lawns and shrubs located around Dover AFB facilities. During a drought warning, watering of lawns and shrubs is restricted to 1600-2100 hours.

5.2.2.5. Restrict the filling / refilling of swimming pools and wading pools. During a drought warning, swimming pools and wading pools may be filled / refilled between 0500-0800 or 1600-2100 hours.

## 5.2.3. Through 436 SPTG/CEH

5.2.3.1. Restrict the watering of lawns, shrubs, and gardens in military family housing. During a drought warning, military family housing occupants may water lawns, shrubs, and gardens between 1600 and 2100 hours.

5.2.3.2. Restrict the washing of vehicles in the military family housing areas. During a drought warning, military family housing occupants may wash vehicles between 1600 and 2100 hours.

5.2.3.3. Restrict the filling / refilling of wading pools. During a drought warning, wading pools may be filled/refilled between 0500-0800 or 1600-2100 hours.

## 5.2.4. Through 436 SPTG/CEC

5.2.4.1. Restrict the watering of lawns and shrubs located around Dover AFB facilities. During a drought warning, watering of lawns and shrubs is restricted to 1600-2100 hours.

## 5.3. 436 SPTG/SVS

5.3.1. Restrict golf course watering to tees and greens during 0500-0800 and 1600-2100 hours daily.

5.3.2. Serve water to customers in base eating establishments only when specifically requested.

## 5.4. 436 AW/PA

5.4.1. Publicize the drought warning in the Airlifter asking for voluntary support.

## 5.5. ALL UNITS

5.5.1. Restrict vehicle washing to 1600-2100 hours daily.

5.5.2. Restrict the watering of lawns and shrubs around Dover AFB facilities to 1600-2100 hours daily.

**6. Organizational Responsibilities during a Drought Emergency:**

## 6.1. 436 AW/CC

6.1.1. Acts as EPC chairperson or appoints acting chairperson.

6.1.2. Provides direction through EPC to develop and maintain plans and regulations with specific guidelines for base environmental concerns.

6.2. 436 SPTG/CE

6.2.1. Through 436 SPTG/CEV

6.2.1.1. Establishes and publishes technical policy regarding water conservation measures.

6.2.1.2. Prepares all correspondence to DNREC and EPA regarding water conservation measures.

6.2.1.3. Prepares annual water summary and leak detection and control plan reports for submittal to DNREC.

6.2.2. Through 436 SPTG/CEO

6.2.2.1. The washing of streets, parking lots and other paved surfaces is banned including the washing of hangar floors except in an emergency.

6.2.2.2. Flushing of sewers is banned except when deemed necessary in the interest of public health and safety.

6.2.2.3. The opening of fire hydrants for any purpose other than to fight fires is banned.

6.2.2.4. The watering of lawns around Dover AFB facilities is banned.

6.2.2.5. The filling / refilling of swimming pools and wading pools is banned.

6.2.3. Through 436 SPTG/CEH

6.2.3.1. The watering of lawns in base housing is banned. Watering of domestic vegetable gardens will be allowed only between 0500-0800 and 1600-2100 hours.

6.2.3.2. The washing of private vehicles in military family housing areas shall be banned.

6.2.3.3. The filling / refilling of wading pools is banned.

6.2.4. Through 436 SPTG/CEC

6.2.4.1. Water can be applied to implement re-vegetation following new construction or alteration work to prevent soil erosion. This can be accomplished only between 0500-0800 and 1600-2100 hours only for a 60 day period after seeding or sodding.

6.3. 436 SPTG/SVS

6.3.1. Restrict golf course watering to tees and greens during 0500-0800 and 1600-2100 hours daily.

6.3.2. Serve water to customers in base eating establishments only when specifically requested.

6.4. 436 AW/PA

6.4.1. Publicize the drought emergency in the Airlifter indicating mandatory compliance with these requirements.

6.5. ALL UNITS

6.5.1. The washing of government vehicles will be allowed only during the swing shift (1600-2400 hours) and then only when deemed mission essential by unit commanders. Vehicles should be washed from hand held hoses with manually operated flow control nozzles.

6.5.2. The watering of lawns and shrubs around Dover AFB facilities is banned.

6.5.3. The washing of floors within each organization is banned except in an emergency.

FELIX M. GRIEDER, Colonel, USAF  
Commander